

1 BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 2 AZ CORE 5 **COMMISSIONERS** DOCKET GUN: 3 BOB STUMP - Chairman **GARY PIERCE** 2014 JUN 2 PM 3 35 4 ORIGINAL **BRENDA BURNS BOB BURNS** 5 SUSAN BITTER SMITH 6 IN THE MATTER OF THE REORGANIZATION DOCKET NO. E-04230A-14-0011 7 OF UNS ENERGY CORPORATION. E-01933A-14-0011 8 STAFF'S NOTICE OF FILING TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF THE 9 SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT 10 11 Staff of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Staff") hereby files the Testimony of Steven 12 M. Olea in support of the Settlement Agreement in the above docket. 13 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2014. 14 15 16 17 Bridget Humphrey Attorneys, Legal Division 18 Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street 19 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 20 21 Original and thirteen (13) copies of the foregoing filed this 22 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2014 with: 23 Arizona Corporation Commission **Docket Control** DOCKETED Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street JUN 02 2014 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 25 DOCKETED BY 26 . . . 27

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## BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

DOCKET NOS. E-01933A-14-0011
E-04230A-14-0011

**TESTIMONY** 

IN SUPPORT OF

THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

STEVEN M. OLEA

DIRECTOR

**UTILITIES DIVISION** 

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

JUNE 2, 2014

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY UNS ENERGY CORPORATION DOCKET NOS. E-01933A-14-0011 AND E-04230A-14-0011

Mr. Olea's testimony supports the adoption of the Settlement Agreement ("Agreement") as proposed by the Signatories in this case. This testimony describes the settlement process as open, candid, transparent and inclusive of all parties to this case. Mr. Olea explains the reasons the Agreement is in the public interest.

Mr. Olea's testimony recommends that the Commission adopt the Agreement as proposed.

Testimony of Steven M. Olea Docket Nos. E-01933A-14-0011 and E-04230A-14-0011

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## **SECTION I – INTRODUCTION**

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Q. Please state your name and business address.

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A. Steven M. Olea, 1200 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona, 85007.

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By whom and in what capacity are you employed? Q.

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A. I am employed by the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") as the Director of the Utilities Division.

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Q. Please state your educational background.

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I graduated from Arizona State University ("ASU") in 1976 with a Bachelors Degree in Civil A. Engineering. From 1976 to 1978 I obtained 47 graduate hours of credit in Environmental

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Please state your pertinent work experience. Q.

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of Air Quality Control in the Arizona Department of Health Services ("ADHS"). My

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responsibilities were to inspect air pollution sources to determine compliance with ADHS rules

From April 1978 to October 1978, I worked for the Engineering Services Section of the Bureau

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and regulations.

Engineering at ASU.

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From November 1978 to July 1982, I was with the Technical Review Unit of the Bureau of

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Water Quality Control ("BWQC") in ADHS (this is now part of the Arizona Department of

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Environmental Quality ("ADEQ"). My responsibilities were to review water and wastewater

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construction plans for compliance with ADHS rules, regulations, and Engineering Bulletins.

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From July 1982 to August 1983, I was with the Central Regional Office, BWQC, ADHS. My responsibilities were to conduct construction inspections of water and wastewater facilities to determine compliance with plans approved by the Technical Review Unit. I also performed routine operation and maintenance inspections to determine compliance with ADHS rules and regulations, and compliance with United States Environmental Protection Agency requirements.

From August 1983 to August 1986, I was a Utilities Consultant/Water-Wastewater Engineer with the Utilities Division. My responsibilities were to provide engineering analyses of Commission regulated water and wastewater utilities for rate cases, financing cases, and consumer complaint cases. I also provided testimony at hearings for those cases.

From August 1986 to August 1990, I was the Engineering Supervisor for the Utilities Division. My primary responsibility was to oversee the activities of the Engineering Section, which included one technician and eight Utilities Consultants. The Utilities Consultants included one Telecommunications Engineer, three Electrical Engineers, and four Water-Wastewater Engineers. I also assisted the Chief Engineer and performed some of the same tasks as I did as a Utilities Consultant.

In August 1990, I was promoted to the position of Chief Engineer. My duties were somewhat the same as when I was the Engineering Supervisor, except that now I was less involved with the day-to-day supervision of the Engineering Staff and more involved with the administrative and policy aspects of the Engineering Section.

In April 2000, I was promoted to the position of one of two Assistant Directors of the Utilities Division. In this position, I assisted the Division Director in the policy aspects of the Utilities Division. I was primarily responsible for matters dealing with water and energy.

Testimony of Steven M. Olea Docket Nos. E-01933A-14-0011 and E-04230A-14-0011

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In August 2009, I was promoted to my present position as Director of the Utilities Division. In this position, I manage the day-to-day operations of the Utilities Division with the assistance of the two Utilities Division Assistant Directors and oversee the management of the Utilities Division's Telecom & Energy Section, the Financial & Regulatory Analysis Section, the Consumer Services Section, the Engineering Section, the Compliance Section and the Administrative Section. In addition, I am responsible for making policy decisions for the Utilities Division.

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In early 2010, I was given the task of being the Interim Director for the Commission's Safety Division (Railroad and Pipeline). The day-to-day activities of the Safety Division were overseen by the managers of the Railroad Safety Section and the Pipeline Safety Section with input from me. Together with the Commission's Executive Director, I was responsible for the policy decisions for the Safety Division up until a permanent Safety Division Director was hired late in 2012.

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#### What is the purpose of your testimony? Q.

17 18 A. The purpose of my testimony is to support the Proposed Settlement Agreement ("Agreement"). I will also provide testimony which addresses the settlement process, public interest benefits, substance of the Agreement and general policy considerations.

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#### Q. How is your testimony being presented?

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My testimony is organized into four sections. Section I is this introduction, Section II provides discussion of the settlement process, Section III discusses the Agreement, and Section IV identifies and discusses the reasons why the Agreement is in the public interest.

Testimony of Steven M. Olea Docket Nos. E-01933A-14-0011 and E-04230A-14-0011 Page 4	
Q.	Will there be other Staff witnesses providing testimony?
A.	No.
SEC	TION II – SETTLEMENT PROCESS
Q.	Did you participate in the negotiations that led to the execution of the Agreement?
A.	Yes, I did.
Q.	Please discuss the settlement process.
A.	The settlement process was open, transparent and inclusive. All parties received notice of the
	settlement meetings and were accorded an opportunity to raise, discuss, and propose
	resolution to any issue that they desired.
Q.	Who participated in those meetings?
A.	All parties to the case participated except for Arizona Public Service Company, the City of
	Nogales and Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative.
Q.	Could you identify the interests that were involved in this process?
A.	The interests included those of residential customers, low income customers, large customers,
	other electric utilities, renewable energy advocates, competitive power advocates,
	homebuilders, a labor union and energy efficiency advocates.
Q.	How many of these parties executed the Agreement?
A.	All parties that participated in the settlement meetings except for Southwest Energy
	Efficiency Project, Navopache Electric Cooperative and Mohave Electric Cooperative signed
	the Agreement.

Do	stimony of Steven M. Olea ocket Nos. E-01933A-14-0011 and E-04230A-14-0011 ge 5
Q.	Was there an opportunity for all issues of each participant to be discussed and considered?
A.	Yes, each party had the opportunity to raise any issue and have it considered.
Q.	Were the Signatories able to resolve all issues?
A.	Yes.
Q.	How would you describe the negotiations?
A.	I believe that all participants zealously advocated and represented their interests. I would
	characterize the discussions as candid but professional. All parties had the opportunity to be
	heard and to have their positions fairly considered.
Q.	Would you describe the process as requiring give and take?
A.	Yes, I would. As a result of the varied interests represented in the settlement process
	willingness to compromise was necessary. As evidenced in the Agreement, the Signatories
	compromised on different litigation positions.

Because of such compromising, do you believe the public interest was compromised?

No. As I will discuss later in this testimony, I believe that the compromises made by the

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Signatories further the public interest.

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Q.

### SECTION III - SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

including those of the Applicants [UNS Energy Corporation ("UNS Energy"), UNS Energy Services, Inc. ("UES"), Tucson Electric Power Company ("TEP"), UNS Electric, Inc. ("UNS Electric"), UNS Gas, Inc. ("UNS Gas"), Fortis, Inc. ("Fortis"), FortisUS Holdings Nova Scotia Limited ("FortisUS Nova Scotia"), FortisUS Inc.

industrial and commercial customers; energy efficiency and renewable energy groups;

("FortisUS"), and Color Acquisition Sub Inc. ("Color Acquisition")]; residential,

Mr. Olea, you have indicated that the Agreement incorporates varied interests

home builders; investors; mines; competitive providers; and community action

groups. Please discuss how the Agreement addresses their interests.

A. As indicated in Section 1.8.a through Section 1.8.d, and as detailed in the Agreement, the Applicants agree to the following:

- TEP, UNS Electric and UNS Gas (collectively the "Regulated Utilities") shall provide \$30 million of direct customer benefits over 5 years through bill credits of which \$10 million will be payable in year 1 and \$5 million per year will be payable in years 2 through 5.
- To inject \$220 million of equity capital into UNS Energy for the benefit of the Regulated Utilities. This will enable the Regulated Utilities to become a part of a larger, more diverse and financially secure company with a stronger credit rating.
- To financially strengthen UNS Energy and the Regulated Utilities, and enhance the Regulated Utilities' ability to provide safe, reliable and adequate service, improve their individual capital structures, and preserve or improve their credit ratings.
- To protect ratepayers by establishing appropriate ring fencing measures that will serve to protect each of the Regulated Utilities and its customers; and, improve access to capital markets that will enhance the Regulated Utilities' ability to obtain sufficient capital to meet their needs, including access to debt capital at lower cost.
- To maintain existing employee levels and employee benefits at the Regulated Utilities for a period of at least 4 years, continue to perform under the existing collective bargaining agreements for the Regulated Utilities, and ensure that all future decisions on staffing, employment practices and labor relations at the Regulated Utilities continue to be made by local management of the Regulated Utilities;
- To retain existing senior management of UNS Energy and the Regulated Utilities in Arizona, and maintain their headquarters in Tucson, Arizona;

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- To appoint a Board of Directors of UNS Energy, with oversight over UNS Energy and the Regulated Utilities, a majority of whom will be independent and a majority of whom will be resident in Arizona; and,
- To continue to support low income assistance programs at or above current levels; sustain their contributions to charitable and community programs; and continue to provide energy efficiency and renewable energy programs as approved, or may be approved, by the Commission.
- Q. Mr. Olea, are there any other issues that you would like to bring to the Commission's attention.
  - A. Yes. Among other things, Section H of the Attachment to the Agreement requires the Applicants to:
    - Prepare or amend the Code of Conduct for the Regulated Utilities similar to that which was previously approved for TEP.
    - Maintain an up-to-date organizational chart.
    - Provide various documents listed in Sections 6.5 of the Attachment to Staff and RUCO.
    - Not seek relief from the Commission for any of the Conditions listed in the Agreement or Attachment thereto for at least five years.

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- Q. Mr. Olea, can you explain how the benefits listed above will be implemented?
- A. Please see Attachment A to the Settlement which explains the implementation of the benefits and conditions

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- **SECTION IV PUBLIC INTEREST**
- Q. Mr. Olea, is the Agreement in the public interest?
- A. Yes, in Staff's opinion, the Agreement is fair, balanced, and in the public interest.

Q. Is there anything else you would like to add regarding the Agreement?

A. I would like to reiterate that the settlement discussions were transparent, candid, professional and open to all parties in this docket. All parties were allowed to openly express their views and opinions on all issues. I believe the Agreement is in the public interest.

- Q. Would you summarize the reasons that lead Staff to conclude that the Agreement is fair, balanced, and in the public interest?
- A. The Agreement provides a monetary benefit to ratepayers while at the same time providing the Regulated Utilities the opportunity to be part of a larger, well financed organization to enable the Regulated Utilities to not only maintain their existing safe, reliable and adequate service, but also improve this service.
- Q. Mr. Olea, do you believe that the Agreement results in benefits for consumers?
- A. Yes. Among other benefits, the Agreement stipulates that there shall be a \$30 million benefit to ratepayers and no recovery of any acquisition adjustment or transition costs.
- Q. Mr. Olea, what was Staff's goal when it agreed to be a Signatory to the Agreement?
- A. The primary goal of Staff in this matter, as in all proceedings before the Commission, is to protect the public interest. Staff believes it has accomplished this by reviewing the facts presented and making the appropriate recommendations to the Commission for its consideration. Staff believes the Agreement balances the interests of the Applicants and the ratepayers, by ensuring that the Regulated Utilities have the tools and financial health to provide safe, adequate and reliable service, while complying with Commission requirements of just and reasonable rates and protecting the Regulated Utilities and ratepayers from undue risk.

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- Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
- A. Yes, it does.

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